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THE HUNTER ENVOY

Thursday, March 16, 1967

We Shall Not Be Moved

The fifty demonstrators who took part in last Friday's protest against the CIA evoked little reaction from the student population. The average response was

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Plus — Minus Is Here To Stay?

The institution of a plus-minus grading system has sparked a great many questions during the past few weeks. If we deal only with what is essential to the issue at this time—the desirability of the system itself then we find that the major objection raised to the change has been the feeling that it will put even more of an emphasis upon grades than we already have.

Since the overwhelming number of colleges continue to issue grades, they appear to be a necessary evil—at least for the time being. Within this context, however, it has been felt that grades ought to be made as flexible, yet as accurate a reflection of a student's performance as possible. Under the present system, students with 78, 88, and 98 class averages, as well as those with 72, 82, and 92, will have overall averages of B. It is hoped that a plus-minus system will remedy the obvious discrepancy we find here. It is also hoped that the student who has just missed getting an A or a B will find alleviation for his resultant frustration in the justice which the new system is designed to provide.

We must also not forget that research into the desirability of instituting a change in the present system was begun in November of 1965, and that it has been under the meticulous scrutiny of a Faculty Council committee for many months. Hunter students and faculty have been polled, and while the suggestion that each and every Hunter student and faculty member be asked his or her opinion is one which is well taken, as well as one which ought, by all means, to be actuated in the future, does it not seem that the new system, one which practiced now at numerous schools throughout the country, may offer a sufficient number of valid and distinct advantages to at least be given a try?

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